New Energies and Parish Planning

Rev. Msgr. William C. Harms and “I” Team
London Identity
Paris
London
New York City
New York City Grid
Planning

- A Relatively New Concept
No Definitive Glossary
Planning

• Business
• Education
• City

• Financial
• Pastoral Planning
• 1st Diocese / Pittsburgh
• National Pastoral Planning Conferences
Glossary for the Archdiocese of Newark
Simple Questions

• What is planning?
• Who are we?
• What do we want to do?
• How are we going to do it?
• How did it go?
• RECYCLE
The Planning Cycle

Phase 1: Commitment to Planning
Phase 2: Contemporary Mission
Phase 3: Data Gathering
  - Population Demographics
  - Parish Activities
  - Flow Chart
Phase 4: Assumption and Analysis
Phase 5: Goal Setting
Phase 6: Specification of Objectives
Phase 7: Program Development
Phase 8: Implementation
Phase 9: Evaluation

What is planning?
Who are we?
How did it go?
How are we going to do it?
What do we want to do?
Mission

• Gives thrust
• Which gives meaning and purpose to the parish
Components of a Mission Statement

- Brief
- Spiritual
- Inspiring
- Broad and comprehensive
- Ongoing purpose
Data Gathering

- 28 Principles
- Strength
- Weakness
- Opportunities
- Threats
Assumptions / Analysis

• One cannot plan in a vacuum
• Concrete data is important
• Correct data sets a direction and helps form assumptions

Assumptions are short and to the point, stating a hypothesis based on fact.
Assumptions / Analysis

• Parish membership will remain stable over the next five years
• Ministries of growth and young adults will continue to be a major concern of the parish
• There will be no increase in the number of priests or sisters assigned to the parish
Goals

• Should be developed by all those who are responsible for implementing them
• Consists of a set of concrete results one hopes to achieve
• Set a 3 year time period and are subdivided into a series of year-to-year objectives
Tests for Goal Quality

• Begin with “To”
• One central event
• Guide for action
• Can it be subdivided into objectives
• Contain a measure of effectiveness
• Within control of the parish
• Is the goal challenging?
• Is the goal in harmony with the mission of Jesus Christ?
Sample Goals

• Improve prayer life of the parish

NOT SPECIFIC ENOUGH!

• To implement a financial program on Tithing with 40% of Active Parishioners involved

• To establish a network of communication among Parish Organizations and Parish Members with a least one contact each month
Objectives

• Similar to elements of a goal

BUT

• Objectives are stepping stones to a goal
• Accomplished in one year or less

• To design and conduct a Parish Educational Program on the meaning of Christian Stewardship
• To establish three specific methods of communication between the Parish Council and the Parish Membership
Goal Oriented

Objectives

Objectives

Objectives
Program Development

PROGRAM TITLE

• Who?  ➔ Ownership
• What?  ➔ Criteria
• With what?  ➔ Necessary resources
JUST DO IT!
Evaluation

• Use an Evaluation Form!
Cluster Level is Easier

• What can we do together that makes realization a reality?
  • Adult Education
  • Young Adult Ministry
  • Social Justice Programs
  • Food Bank
  • ESL Program
  • Staff Connection
  • Shared Parish Council Development
Background Done or Explored!
Primary Area of Work

• What can be done together?
DO NOT overextend with Pie-in-the-Sky Ideas

– Keep it genuine!
Stay Grounded
Primary Area of Work

- Basic needs that can be done together
  - Review the 28 Principles
Primary Area of Work

- Establish Goals
- And Then Objectives
Write Up Objectives
Program Development

PROGRAM TITLE

• Who?  →  Ownership
• What?  →  Criteria
• With what?  →  Necessary resources
GO FOR IT!
Evaluate by Review

• What objective(s) have been completed?

• Do we need to alter goal(s) based on experience?
Write Up Evaluation
Mail Evaluation Form

• Deadline is October 15, 2016

• Mail to New Energies
Why?

• Goal: to celebrate that we need each other and will work to help each other
Results are Positive and Enriching